

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 DAMASC 01438 130829Z

44

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-05 MC-02 SAJ-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /078 W

----- 128168

R 130757Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6706

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 1438

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS

SUBJECT: REPORTED SYRIAN DESIRE PURCHASE FRENCH
HELICOPTERS WITH SAUDI FUNDING

REF: DAMASCUS 1310

1. WELL-CONNECTED SYRIAN BUSINESSMAN TOLD EMBOFF
THAT DURING HIS RECENT TRIP TO PARIS HE INFORMED
BY AIDE TO PRIMIN CHIRAC THAT ASAD HOPED FINALIZE
AGREEMENT TO PURCHASE EIGHT SUPER FRELON HELICOPTERS
WITH ADVANCED "EXOCET" MISSILES, FOR \$200 MILLION.
(COMMENT: THIS PRICE VERY HIGH AND MAY WELL IN-
CLUDE OTHER SOPHISTICATED MILITARY MISSILE GUIDANCE
EQUIPMENT) FUNDING WOULD BE PROVIDED BY SAUDI
ARABIA, ACCORDING TO BUSINESSMAN.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 DAMASC 01438 130829Z

2. SOURCE ADDED THAT FIRST OF FORTY GAZELLE

HELICOPTERS BROUGHT FROM FRANCE IN SEP 1975 WILL
ARRIVE THIS MONTH.
MURPHY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT, FINANCE, MILITARY SALES, HELICOPTERS, MISSILES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976DAMASC01438
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760096-0055
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760364/aaaaceen.tel
Line Count: 64
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 DAMASCUS 1310
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 APR 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <17 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPORTED SYRIAN DESIRE PURCHASE FRENCH HELICOPTERS WITH SAUDI FUNDING
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, FR, SA, JO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006